

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventors : Shinya Wada  
Serial No. : 10/723,296  
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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

S I R:

In order to comply with discretionary regulations 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of the non-US documents (if any) listed thereon. These documents contain information which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

Also attached is a Notification of Reason(s) for Refusal for corresponding Japanese Patent Application JP 2002-367092, dated August 12, 2008. The Notification of Reason(s) for Refusal cites four documents. Three of the documents, namely; JP 2000-241853; JP 2000-016612; JP 11-150741 were previously submitted in an IDS filed on June 17, 2008.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR 1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed

as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 (a), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

As this statement is being filed after the issuance of a Notice of Allowance but before payment of the Issue Fee, please charge a fee of \$180.00 to Deposit Account 50-1290, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(d) and 1.17(p) along with a statement in compliance with 37 CFR 1.97(e). Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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